

We claim:

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1. A method for managing connections between at least one client and a server, said method comprising:
establishing a network connection with one of said clients via a network ;
receiving a communication from said client via said network connection;
establishing a bus connection with said server via an internal bus of said server; and
forwarding said client communication to said server via said bus connection.

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2. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of receiving a communication from said client includes storing said communication in a buffer.

3. A method according to Claim 2, wherein said step of storing said communication in a buffer includes accumulating one or more separate transmissions from said client in said buffer.

4. A method according to Claim 3, wherein said step of establishing a bus connection with said server includes waiting until a complete client request is accumulated in said buffer before establishing said bus connection with said server.

5. A method according to Claim 4, further comprising:
receiving a response to said client communication from said server via said bus connection; and
forwarding said response to said client via said network connection.

6. A method according to Claim 5, wherein said step of receiving said response from said server includes storing said response in a buffer.

7. A method according to Claim 6, wherein said step of receiving said response from said server includes terminating said bus connection after said response is received.

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8. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a response to said client communication from said server via said bus
connection; and
forwarding said response to said client via said network connection.

9. A method according to Claim 8, wherein said step of receiving said response from said
server includes storing said response in a buffer.

10. A method according to Claim 9, wherein said step of receiving said response from
said server includes terminating said bus connection after said response is received.

11. A method according to Claim 8, wherein said client communication includes an
HTTP request.

12. A method according to Claim 11, wherein said response from said server includes an
HTML page.

13. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of establishing a network
connection with a client includes establishing a separate network connection with each of a
plurality of clients via said network.

14. A method according to Claim 13, wherein said step of establishing said bus
connection with said server includes establishing a plurality of connections with said server via
said internal bus of said server.

15. A method according to Claim 14, wherein the maximum number of simultaneous
client connections exceeds the maximum number of simultaneous server connections.

16. A method according to Claim 1, further comprising performing a security operation
on said client communication prior to forwarding said client communication to said server.

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17. A method according to Claim 1, wherein:

said step of receiving said client communication includes discerning an application

identifier from said client communication; and

said step of forwarding said client communication to said server includes invoking one of

a plurality of proxy applications based on said application identifier.

18. A method according to Claim 17, wherein said application identifier is the

connection port number.

19. A method according to Claim 1, wherein said step of receiving said client communication includes receiving at least a portion of an HTTP request.

20. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 1.

21. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 2.

22. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 3.

23. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 4.

24. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 5.

25. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 6.

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1 26. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 7.

1 27. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 8.

1 28. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 9.

1 29. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 10.

1 30. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 11.

1 31. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 12.

1 32. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 13.

1 33. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 14.

1 34. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 15.

1 35. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 16.

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1 36. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 17.

1 37. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 18.

1 38. A computer readable medium having code embodied therein for causing an
2 electronic device to perform the steps of Claim 19.

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1 39. An adapter card for coupling a server with an internal bus to a network, said adapter
2 card comprising:

3 a network controller for communicating with clients on said network;
4 a memory device for storing data and code, said code including a proxy application;
5 a processing unit coupled to said memory device for executing said code; and
6 a protocol adapter coupled to said processing unit, and adapted to couple to said internal
7 bus, for communicating with said server.

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1 40. An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said code further comprises a
2 communication protocol stack.

1 41. An adapter according to Claim 40, wherein said communication protocol stack
2 comprises a standard TCP/IP protocol stack.

1 42. An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes a
2 security proxy.

1 43. An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes a
2 pass-through proxy.

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44. An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes an HTTP proxy.

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45. An adapter card according to Claim 39, further comprising a data buffer for storing data received from said clients.

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46. An adapter card according to Claim 39, wherein said proxy application includes a master process module responsive to a connection request received from one of said clients, and operative to establish a connection with said client and to initiate a new client process module to maintain said established connection.

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47. An adapter card according to Claim 46, wherein said master process module is further operative to notify said proxy application of said established connection.

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